(b) if so, when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) the names of the foreign companies which are likely to set up their electronic industries there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government of India.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Electronic Free Trade Zones in States

2232. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are allowing the State Government to set up electronic free trade zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the private sector is also being involved under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (d). There is a proposal under the consideration of the Government to permit State Governments and private sector to put up the infrastructure for duty free electronic technology parks with the regulatory functions alone being looked after by the Government of India. Details of the proposal are still being worked out.

Electronic Policy

2233. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to formulate any Electronic policy on the line of the recently framed new industrial policy;

(b) whether the licensing system is proposed to be completely abolished under the policy; and

(c) the time by which such a policy is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Proposal for Electronic Valley near Aurangabad, Maharashtra

2234. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for the setting up of an "Electronic Valley" near Aurangabad in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Commonwealth Science Society of London has also agreed to establish a CAD/CAM centre in the region; and

(d) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to be finalised and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No such proposal has been received by the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such proposal has been received.

(d) Does not arise.

Diploma to Trainees

2235. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether practical training for one to four year in various trades is being imparted to unemployed youths by Delhi Administration and thereafter training is imparted by the department of Ministry of Labour;

(b) whether the Government award diplomas to those who passed out the Apprenticeship examination;

(c) whether such diplomas are as good as those awarded by the polytechnic and whether the scales of pay for both diploma holders are the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Practical training is being imparted to School leavers under Apprenticeship/Craftsmen Training Schemes under the aegis of NCVT. No further training is imparted by the Ministry of Labour.

(b) No, Sir. successful candidates are awarded only National Apprenticeship Certificates by the National Council for Vocational Training.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Subsidy to States for Foodgrains

2236. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:

KUMARI DIPIKA CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy provided to various States for foodgrains during the last three years and during the current year, year-wise; and

(b) the increase or reduction likely to be made in this amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Government of India does not provide any subsidy on foodgrains directly to the States. Food subsidy is paid to Food Corporation of India for reimbursement of (1) difference between economic cost of foodgrains and their issue price, i.e. consumer subsidy; (ii) carrying cost of buffer stocks. The food subsidy year-wise, paid by the Central Government to the Corporation during the last 3 years and the current year is as under:

Year	*Amount of food subsidy (Rs. in crores)*
1988-89	2200
1989-90	2476
1990-91	2450
1991-92 (so far)	1681

* (including on sugar)

The amount of food subsidy depends upon the level of procurement, off-take, food stocks and other factors like freight, interest charges etc. and procurement/issue price of foodgrains.